

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action of January 6, 2004, has been carefully considered.

It is noted that claims 1, 2 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over the patent to Aiyar.

It is further noted that claims 3-13 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

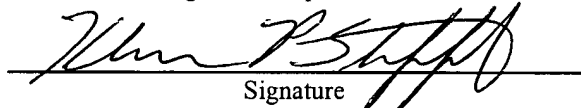
In view of the Examiner's rejection of claims 1 and 14, Applicant has amended these claims, as suggested by the Examiner, to recite that the dental accessory is mounted to the sleeve. As acknowledged by the Examiner, the cited patent to Aiyar does not disclose the dental accessory being mounted to the sleeve. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that rejection of claims 1, 2 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over the patent Aiyar is overcome and should be withdrawn.

In view of these considerations, it is further respectfully submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly requested.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on April 6, 2004:

Klaus P. Stoffel

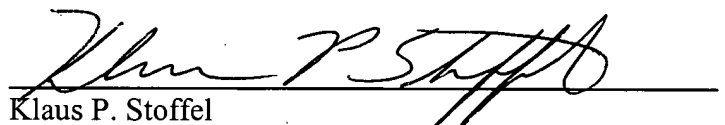
Name of applicant, assignee or
Registered Representative


Signature

April 6, 2004

Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,


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